

Contents

PART I. PREDICTING CATASTROPHES

- | | |
|--|----|
| 1. What Are Catastrophes? | 3 |
| 2. Unscientific Predictions | 27 |
| 3. Scientific Models | 45 |
| 4. Predicting by Modeling and Simulation | 85 |

PART II. EIGHT IMMINENT CATASTROPHES

- | | |
|--|-----|
| Introduction | 125 |
| 5. Ozone Layer Depletion: The Hole in the Sky | 129 |
| 6. Climate Modification: The Greenhouse Effect | 143 |

7. Nuclear Radiation	165
8. Air Pollution: Acid Rain	179
9. The AIDS Epidemic	193
10. Overpopulation: The Population Explosion	209
11. Economic Collapse: Another "Great Depression"	231
12. Earthquakes: The Big One Is Coming	243

PART III. WHAT DOES IT ALL MEAN?

13. The Big Picture	267
14. Implications and Conclusions	279
Appendix: Mathematical Model of a Mechanical System	291
References	293
Bibliography	305
Author Index	311
Subject Index	315